



LEARN MORE...

New Rules...Progressive Reform in Hawaii's Workers' Comp System

Don't miss this opportunity to attend a free educational seminar on the new Hawaii Workers' Compensation Administrative Rules.

Thursday, June 23, 2005
8:30 am - 12:00 pm
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations
830 Punchbowl St. Rm. 310

Background

Work Comp Reform. Governor Linda Lingle recently signed the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) new administrative rules, the most significant reform to Hawaii's workers' compensation system in a decade. The new rules are a step in the right direction in addressing an outdated workers' compensation system that is both expensive and inefficient.

Hearings and Resolution Process. The new rules will help modernize the workers' compensation hearings and claims resolution process to bring transparency, predictability, and accountability.

Treatment Guidelines. The new rules will ensure that injured workers are being treated based on the most current medical "best practices" by requiring the use of ODG Treatment Guidelines designed for medical providers, injured workers and the workers' compensation community. The rules also allow doctors the flexibility to treat an injured worker more extensively than what the ODG guidelines may indicate, provided there is an objective justification based on evidence-based medicine.

Who should attend?

Employees, employers, medical doctors, health care professionals, claims administrators, attorneys, and other professionals in the workers' compensation community are welcomed to attend.

What will you learn?

- How the hearings process can promptly resolve disputes.
- How to resolve disputes through the alternative dispute resolution process.
- What is "evidence-based medicine?"
- How medical guidelines benefit injured workers.
- Overview of ODG Guidelines.
- Step-by-step process to utilize the ODG guidelines.
- How to develop valid alternative treatment plans.

Faculty

The DLIR is sponsoring this seminar and is honored to have the following keynote speakers:

Stephen L. Demeter, MD



Dr. Demeter has treated injured workers in Ohio, Arizona and Hawaii. He currently serves as the Director of Disability Evaluations and IME's at Kaiser Permanente, Hawaii.

He is board certified in pulmonary medicine, occupational medicine, internal medicine, disability evaluation, and critical care medicine. Dr. Demeter is a former professor and Head of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at Northeast Ohio Universities College of Medicine. He is also the past president of the American Academy of Disability Evaluating Physicians. He has authored numerous publications on occupational medicine, including the American Medical Association's reference to Disability Evaluation (2nd Ed).

Robert Sussman, MD



Dr. Sussman currently serves as the medical director at The Medical Corner, specializing in family and occupational medicine. He is Board Certified by the American

Board of Family Practice and the American College of Occupational Environmental Medicine. He is licensed in Pennsylvania and Hawaii, and treated injured workers in Hawaii's workers' compensation system since 1987. He is a member of the American College of Occupational & Environmental Medicine (ACOEM) and the Hawaii Independent Physician's Association.

Registration

This is a free seminar. However, in order to provide a controlled educational environment where professionals can exchange workers' compensation information, the seminar will be limited to the first 200 applicants. **To register, email us your: Name, Company, Address, Phone number, at DLIR.DIRECTOR@hawaii.gov.** For additional information please call us at (808) 586-8842.

